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TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1691
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 BEIJING 17155

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TAGS: MOPS, PINS, PREL, PGOV, PHUM, SOCI, CH
SUBJECT: TFCH01: SITREP NO. 61, JUNE 23, 1700 LOCAL

1. CONFIDENTIAL ENTIRE TEXT.

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2. SUMMARY: IN A MASSIVE NATIONWIDE OPERATION, 12
PRC NATIONALS AND ONE TAIWAN NATIONAL WERE ARRESTED
AS TAIWAN AGENTS. THE GOVERNMENT IS TRYING TO
DEMONSTRATE THROUGH THESE ARRESTS THAT THERE WAS

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FOREIGN INFLUENCE BEHIND THE STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS.

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3. IN WHAT APPEARS TO BE CHINESE REACTION TO U.S. MEASURES AGAINST THE PRC, THE CHINESE HAVE POSTPONED THE PEACE CORPS PROGRAM IN CHINA. FOUR OFFICIALS WHO WERE TO HAVE DEPARTED FOR THE U.S. ON USIA SPONSORED I.V. PROGRAMS HAVE CANCELED THEIR TRIP. THE STATE COUNCIL ALSO CANCELED A DELEGATION VISIT TO THE U.S.

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4. THE CHINESE OFFICIAL PRESS HAS CONTINUED ITS CRITICAL ATTACK ON VOA AND THE U.S. PRESS. ON OTHER ISSUES, TWO FULBRIGHT SCHOLARS TOLD US THAT THERE WAS A DEAL FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR AT BEIJING UNIVERSITY TO END EARLY AND FOR STUDENTS TO DEPART FOR HOME IN EXCHANGE FOR THE PLA SOLDIERS NOT TO ENTER THE CAMPUS. THE CHINESE HAVE TRIED TO EASE ANXIETIES IN HONG KONG AND MACAO BY INSISTING THAT PRC POLICIES REMAIN UNCHANGED. BUT A CHINESE OFFICIAL WARNED THE PEOPLE OF BOTH CITIES NOT TO INTERFERE IN CHINESE DOMESTIC POLITICS. END SUMMARY

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PRC CHARGES FOREIGN INFLUENCE BEHIND
DEMONSTRATIONS, TAIWAN "AGENTS" ARRESTED

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5. IN DRAMATIC FASHION, THE CENTRAL AUTHORITIES ANNOUNCED THE ARREST OF 12 PRC NATIONALS AND 1 TAIWAN NATIONAL IN A MASSIVE NATIONWIDE ROUNDUP OF TAIWAN "AGENTS" IN AN EFFORT TO DEMONSTRATE THAT OUTSIDE AGENTS HELPED ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT THE "REBELLION." WHILE ATTACKS ON THE U.S. CONTINUED, TAIWAN WAS CLEARLY THE FOCUS ON THE JUNE 22 EVENING NEWS AND FRONT PAGE HEADLINE OF THE JUNE 23 PEOPLE'S DAILY. MOST OF THOSE ARRESTED WERE WORKERS AND HAVE TRAVELED OVERSEAS. THEY WERE CHARGED AS BEING AGENTS OF THE TAIWAN AUTHORITIES. THE CHINESE SECURITY SERVICE ALLEGEDLY CAUGHT THE MEN SPREADING FALSE RUMORS, COLLECTING INFORMATION ABOUT THE DEMONSTRATIONS, AND SUPPORTING THE STUDENTS AND THE REBELLION. THE EVENING NEWS SHOWED FILM FOOTAGE OF SOME OF THOSE ARRESTED AT TIANANMEN SQUARE OBSERVING THE DEMONSTRATIONS AND READING WALL POSTERS.

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6. IN BEIJING, THE ARRESTED WERE WANG CHANGHONG, LIANG QIANG AND QIAN RONGMIAN; IN SHANGHAI, QIU LIN, ZHOU YAN, CAO WEIGUO, FENG JIN AND LU ZHENGQING; IN GUANGDONG, ZHANG YI AND WU JIDONG; IN NINGXIA, GAO XIAOSHI; IN SHENYANG QU ZUOJIE; AND IN GUIZHOU, OU ZONGYOU, A TAIWAN BUSINESSMAN VISITING CHINA.

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PRC POSTPONES PEACE CORPS AND
CANCELS OFFICIAL TRIPS TO U.S.

7. THE CEAIE, THE HOST AGENCY FOR THE PEACE CORPS
IN CHINA, INFORMED THE EMBASSY TODAY THAT "IT IS NOW
INCONVENIENT TO RECEIVE THE U.S.-CHINA FRIENDSHIP
VOLUNTEERS. WE PREFER TO POSTPONE THE PROGRAM. BOTH
SIDES WILL DISCUSS THE PROPER TIME FOR THE VOLUNTEERS
TO COME." CEAIE WAS UNABLE TO GIVE A TIME OR VENUE

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TAGS: MOPS, PINS, PREL, PGOV, PHUM, SOCI, CH
SUBJECT: TFC01: SITREP NO. 61, JUNE 23, 1700 LOCAL

FOR TALKS ON THE PEACE CORPS.

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8. PRESS AND CULTURE REPORTS THAT FOUR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WHO RECENTLY TOLD US THAT THEY WERE LOOKING FORWARD TO THEIR TRAVEL TO THE U.S. IN JULY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE INTERNATIONAL VISITORS PROGRAM, INFORMED US TODAY THAT THEY WERE ORDERED BY THEIR RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO CANCEL THEIR TRIP. A DELEGATION FROM THE RESEARCH CENTER FOR ECONOMIC, TECHNOLOGICAL, AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT UNDER THE STATE COUNCIL MET WITH THE EMBASSY'S AGRICULTURAL SECTION ON THEIR U.N. FUNDED TRIP TO THE U.S. THEY INFORMED US YESTERDAY THAT THE STATE COUNCIL HAD CANCELED THEIR TRIP. HOWEVER, UNOFFICIAL VISITS ARE PROCEEDING. LAST WEEK, TWO CHINESE ACADEMICS DEPARTED FOR A SEMINAR AT YALE UNIVERSITY. WE BELIEVE THE CANCELATIONS AND POSTPONEMENT OF THE ARRIVAL OF THE PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS TO SICHUAN PROVINCE ARE DIRECT ACTIONS THE CHINESE ARE TAKING IN RESPONSE TO RECENT U.S.G. ACTIONS AGAINST THE PRC.

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9. ON EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGES, STATE COUNCILOR LI TIEYING OF THE STATE EDUCATION COMMISSION TOLD A VISITING WORLD BANK OFFICIAL THAT "CHINA'S POLICY TO CONDUCT INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN EDUCATION WILL NOT CHANGE." IT IS NOT CLEAR IF THIS ALSO INCLUDES PROGRAMS WITH THE U.S.

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10. THE JUNE 23 ISSUE OF THE PEOPLE'S DAILY REPORTED THAT THE U.S. HAD "IMPLEMENTED SANCTIONS AGAINST

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CHINA" AND REPORTED ON THE MFA SPOKESPERSON COMMENTS
MADE JUNE 22 THAT CHINA WOULD NOT YIELD TO FOREIGN
PRESSURE AND "RESOLUTELY OPPOSED U.S. INTERFERENCE IN
CHINA'S AFFAIRS."

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DEAL FOR PLA SOLDIERS NOT TO ENTER UNIVERSITY CAMPUS?

11. ELEMENTS OF THE 24TH ARMY HAVE BEEN CAMPED
ACROSS THE STREET FROM BEIJING UNIVERSITY AND
SENTRIES HAVE BEEN POSTED AT INTERSECTIONS IN THE
AREA SINCE JUNE 18. ON JUNE 19, BEIJING UNIVERSITY
DECLARED ITS ACADEMIC YEAR OVER AND SENT ITS STUDENTS
HOME. EMBASSY PAO REPORTS THAT ACCORDING TO TWO

THE VICE
PRESIDENT OF BEIDA LUO HAOCAL NEGOTIATED A DEAL WITH
THE PLA UNDER WHICH THE UNIVERSITY WOULD SEND ALL OF
ITS STUDENTS HOME AND DECLARE THE ACADEMIC YEAR ENDED
IF IN RETURN THE PLA WOULD STAY OFF THE CAMPUS. SO
FAR, SOLDIERS HAVE NOT ENTERED THE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS.

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12. OTHER NATIONAL AND MUNICIPAL UNIVERSITIES HAVE
ALSO ENDED THEIR ACADEMIC YEAR EARLY AND ARE CLOSED
FOR THE SUMMER. ACCORDING TO THE LOCAL PRESS, 40 OF
78 MUNICIPAL UNIVERSITIES, FOR EXAMPLE, HAVE CLOSED
EARLY, BUT WILL REOPEN IN MID-AUGUST, RATHER THAN
SEPTEMBER.

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CRITICAL ATTACKS ON VOA CONTINUE

13. THE DAILY ATTACK ON VOA CONTINUED WITH AN
ARTICLE IN THE JUNE 23 ISSUE OF THE PEOPLE'S DAILY.
CITING NEW YORK TIMES REPORTER NICK KRISTOFF'S RECENT

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ARTICLE THAT THERE WERE 184 CONFIRMED DEATHS AND THAT THERE COULD BE AS MANY AS SEVERAL HUNDRED, THE PEOPLE'S DAILY ARTICLE SAID THIS FIGURE WAS FAR BELOW THE "3000 KILLED AT TIANANMEN SQUARE" CITED BY VOA. THE ARTICLE ATTACKED KRISTOFF AS WELL CRITICIZING HIS METHODOLOGY FOR COUNTING THE NUMBER OF DEAD DEMONSTRATORS. THE ARTICLE STATED THAT KRISTOFF WAS "WRITING A NOVEL AND NOT REPORTING NEWS."

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PRC TRIES TO ASSURE HONG KONG AND MACAO

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14. THE JUNE 22 EVENING AND JUNE 23 NOON NEWS, AND THE JUNE 23 PEOPLE'S DAILY GAVE PROMINENT COVERAGE TO DIRECTOR OF THE HONG KONG AND MACAO OFFICE UNDER THE STATE COUNCIL JI PENGFEI'S COMMENTS THAT CHINA'S POLICY TOWARDS THE TWO CITIES WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED. HE DECLARED "ON BEHALF OF THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT, THAT THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT'S POLICIES TOWARDS HONG KONG AND MACAO, WHICH HAVE BEEN FORMULATED IN LINE WITH THE CONCEPTION OF 'ONE COUNTRY, TWO SYSTEMS', WILL NOT CHANGE." J I PENGFEI SAID THAT SOME FROM HONG KONG AND MACAO HAD VIOLATED CHINESE LAWS BY SUPPORTING THE REBELLION, HE WARNED THE PEOPLE OF BOTH CITIES NOT TO INTERFERE IN CHINA'S DOMESTIC POLITICS. LILLEY

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